L-TRON CORPORATION

BUFFALO VALLEY REGIONAL PD IMPLEMENTS ELECTRONIC CITATION SOLUTION

OVERVIEW
Industry: Public Safety
End-User: Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department
Application: Electronic Applications
Product Solution: Honeywell Area-Imaging Scanner
Solution Provider: L-Tron Corporation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Prior to 2010, the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department (BVRPD) spent much of its time writing, processing, and managing hand-written citations.

When the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department's Lieutenant Hosterman was first exposed to electronic citations and digital records management as part of the Pennsylvania State Steering Committee, he saw an opportunity for his agency to break free from time-consuming, manual data capture and illegible paper citations. The problem with these digital systems was that the software was needlessly complicated, the process time-consuming, and had many opportunities for improvement.

Lt. Hosterman knew there was something more that could be done. When searching for technology solutions to address these challenges, he began searching for scanning and automation-focused technologies – he found L-Tron Corporation.

The days of paper, pen, and hand-delivering citations to the local court office were over. eCitation was coming to Pennsylvania.

CHALLENGE

Handwritten citations take considerable time to generate; officers are required to manually capture driver information, vehicle and registration data, offense narratives, and other information with paper/pen.

The Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department needed a digital, in-car citation system that was simple, easy to use,

and saved officers' time.

In addition to this basic concept, Lt. Hosterman had a vision of a low-cost, automated system that could capture drivers' license and vehicle information automatically, seamlessly populate data fields on citations, print citations in officers' vehicles, send records to the courts automatically, and didn't require a computer science degree to operate.

"I'm all about technology… I thought to myself, 'What can I do to make this happen?'"

-Lt. Hosterman
Buffalo Valley
Regional PD

L-Tron made it happen.

SOLUTION

With the goal of streamlining the citation process, Lt. Hosterman sought out the expertise of one of L-Tron's product specialists: Charlie. Charlie worked with the Lieutenant to identify opportunities for improvement and selected a barcode scanning technology (specifically a Honeywell Area-Imaging Scanner) as a critical element of the solution. Capturing driver and vehicle information automatically by scanning their license and vehicle registration barcodes, the officer completing the citation would have little to manually input into the form.

By combining this scanning technology with other free software, Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department soon had a low-cost solution to their records management woes.

Paper System

Officer generates hand-written vehicle reports

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Carbon copy of handwritten citation given to driver

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Paper reports brought back to headquarters by officer

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Paper reports manually typed into Records Management System

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Paper reports scanned or manually delivered to courts

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Courts manually input information into their system

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**Time to complete:
~1-6 hours (potentially days)**

eCitation

Officer scans registration & license barcodes using license reader

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Barcode data automatically populates form

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Officer inputs time, location, offense, and other information

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eCitation is completed & printed in vehicle

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Digital copy automatically sent to courts via RMS/webserver

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**Time to complete:
~15 minutes**

"I think an electronic citation –when you use a scanner, as opposed to paper– does promote safety because [officers] don't have to concentrate on reading the information off of a driver's license and putting it on a piece of paper…"
-Lt. Barry Hosterman

TAKEAWAYS

L-Tron Corporation knew that enabling Lt. Hosterman's vision for the BVRPD with technology support/configuration, programming, and product knowledge was only a fraction of what was needed to create a truly successful solution. With consultative guidance, one-on-one support and problem-solving, the result was a strong, collaborative partnership. eCitation is now used by 14 different departments across Pennsylvania.

These departments have experienced the following benefits since adopting the system:
- User-friendly, one-screen design
- Low-cost solution
- Ability to scan all barcodes, regardless of condition or country/state of origin
- Significant time-savings
- Reduction in patrol car clutter
- Increased officer safety & situational awareness
- Little-to-no training needed
- Seamless records processing from law enforcement to court system and vice-versa
- Ability to print citations in-vehicle
- Increased accuracy
- Legible, automated data capture

Partnering with L-Tron

L-Tron Corporation is a leading technology solutions provider for Public Safety Officers. With 35 years of experience, we partner with Law Enforcement agencies to develop cutting-edge technology solutions in data collection and field mobility to simplify officers' day-to-day operations and improve risk management.

L-Tron's technology solutions include barcode license readers that also feature image and signature capture, mobile printers, and mounting equipment, as well as rugged laptops, tablets, sealed keyboards, and more.

Lt. Barry Hosterman
Buffalo Valley Regional

Lieutenant Hosterman is a 30-year law enforcement veteran and Past Chief of East Buffalo Township.

The Lieutenant partnered with L-Tron Corporation's technology expert to develop this technology solution. With Lt. Hosterman's vision, the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Dept. now benefits from an automated, "no-nonsense" system for digital citations and records management that is simple, easy to use, and offers incredible time-savings.

The Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department was formed on February 6, 2012 and is based out of Lewisburg, PA (the Lewisburg Police Dept. consolidated with East Buffalo Township Police to create BVRPD). This regional law enforcement agency covers a 17.1 square mile area in central Pennsylvania and has 19 sworn officers.

L-Tron Corporation would like to commend the Lieutenant for his vision and thank him for his incredible service to public safety. 14 other departments in Pennsylvania are now using eCitation.

"It's very simple. I could put it in front of you right now and you'd be able to do a citation."

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